



BOROUGH OF PENRYN



REPORT OF THE Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1968

BOROUGH OF PENRYN

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1968.

THE MAYOR OF PENRYN: Councillor Mrs. D.M. Williams, J.P.

CHAIRMAN: Alderman F. Mark Tallack.

ALDERMEN: E.C. Gwyther, E.W. Medlin and D.H.L. Thomas.

COUNCILLORS: J.A. Barringer, H. Burnett, A.C. Dunstan
Mrs. E.V. Grevatte-Ball, R.D. Hunt,
T.F.J. Jennings, W.G.H. Kingdon M.B.E.,
G.E. Lobb, S. Thomas, E.A.G. Webber,
P.J. Welch,

THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

C.W.J. Hingston, M.R.C.S., (ENG.) L.R.C.P., (LOND.) D.T.M. & H.
(ENG.) D.P.H., (LOND.)

Health Area Office, The Leats, TRURO
Tel: Truro 2202/3.

BOROUGH PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

J.W. Armstrong, M.A.P.H.I.
Municipal Offices, 15, Broad Street, PENRYN.
Tel: Penryn 2289/2203.

CLERK

Miss F.M. Clarke.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Services for the year 1968.

1. Vital Statistics and Infectious Diseases

I am happy to report that the year was a healthy one. You will recall however that starting in January Influenza of a relatively mild type became widespread, and the peak figure for the Falmouth area including Penryn of the number of absences from work due to flu occurred in the week ending 27th February. By the end of March, the Sick Benefit records show that the epidemic had ended.

From the records of notifiable infectious diseases only two cases of Sonne dysentery occurred in Penryn, both in young children and both confirmed by bacteriological examination.

From the table of infectious cases notified each quarter the year can be considered relatively free from diseases.

With regard to Vital Statistics the population of the Borough rose to 5,080 persons, an increase of 90 over 1967. The number of births exceeded deaths by 35 and of the 84 live births 38 took place at home.

No doubt the increase in hospital deliveries from 43 per cent to 55 per cent in 1968 is due to the fact that the new Maternity Unit at Treliske was opened in the latter half of 1968 and I expect the 1969 figure will show an even greater percentage of cases delivered in hospital. This poses the question that if more and more deliveries take place in hospital, there will be less work for the district midwife to do as regards undertaking actual deliveries at home. In order to reduce the work load on the hospital midwives and at the same time ensure the best possible conditions for the expectant mother, it is hoped in future that more selected cases will be delivered under the care of the district midwife and family doctor in new General Practitioner Units, thus ensuring that continuity of care of mother and child by the same midwife, which would also help minimize the problem arising when the mother has her baby away from home and returns home only a day or two after delivery.

There are no significant changes in the causes of death compared with last year or in the various mortality rates.

2. Personal Services

As all figures for immunisation are now sent to County Hall for computerisation and the Health Area Offices receive back a total figure every quarter, it is difficult to compare previous years with 1968, the year in which the scheme started. The figure quoted for 1968 are thus representative of the whole Health Area and not Penryn alone. In the wider aspect the total figures for Cornwall are as good or better than the national figure for all forms of immunisation except Smallpox which has a lower acceptance figure than the Country at Large. The attendance figures at the Child Welfare Clinic continues to increase there being 1610 attendances this year compared with 1,556 last year. At 48 sessions in the year this averages 33 per session.

Sanitation

During 1968, 2 three bedroom houses, 17 bungalows and 4 old peoples flats were built, 12 houses were improved and brought up to standard and 10 houses were demolished. This reflects the urgency which the Borough places on its housing problems and these figures can compare favourably to the numbers built in previous years.

In attempting to run a just and fair points allocation system for housing, I think this Borough has dealt with the problem in a sensible fashion. It is often stated that in any points system too much emphasis is placed on length of residence and the number of years on the housing list and not enough importance is attached to the housing needs of individuals. To show that this Borough has paid considerable attention in its points allocation system to individual needs it can be shown that for a married couple who are under pensionable age, with children, and who were born in Penryn, and whose length of application is 5 years, only 26 per cent of the possible maximum points can be allocated for length of application when such factors as overcrowding, number of children, illness or disease, living with relatives or others, state of house dis-repair, and lack of amenities are taken into consideration.

This 26 per cent of possible maximum points for those born in the Borough and of 5 year length of application increases to 34 per cent when the duration of application reaches 10 years, and 40 per cent when applicants reach 15 years on the waiting list. These percentages illustrate the fact that where individual needs are taken into consideration, the number of points given for these reasons can outweigh those allocated for the number of years on the waiting list and duration of residence.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the Chairman of the Public Health Committee, Mr. Tallack, and all Members of this Committee for their understanding and help throughout the year. I wish to express my thanks to the Town Clerk and especially to Mr. Armstrong for his willing co-operation at all times.

Finally, I wish to express my thanks to Miss V.M. Graham, Area Nursing Officer, and the Clerical Staff at The Leats, who helped me in the production of this report.

I have the honour to be

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

C. W. J. HINGSTON

Medical Officer of Health,
Borough of Penryn.

The Leats,
Truro, Cornwall.
July, 1969.

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GENERAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1968

Except where otherwise stated the figures in brackets throughout the report are the comparable figures for 1967.

Area Acres	..	..	..	829	
Population	..	..	..	5,080	(4,990)
Number of inhabited houses		..	...	1,622	
Rateable value	..	..	..	£136,665	
Product Penny rate	..	..	..	£557	
Number of houses built or under construction since 1945 -					735
Number of families on waiting list for houses					239

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births

Males	39 (35)	Females	45 (42)	Total	84 (77)
Registrar General's Area Comparability Factor					1.02 (1.02)
Birth Rate, per 1,000 population - Penryn					16.8 (15.7)
Birth Rate, per 1,000 population - England & Wales					16.9 (17.2)

Illegitimate Live Births

Males	1 (3)	Females	5 (4)	Total	6 (7)
Percentage of total live births	..		..		7.1 (9.0)

Stillbirths

Males	1 (0)	Females	0 (0)	Total	1 (0)
Stillbirth rate, per 1,000 total births, Penryn					11.7. (0)
Stillbirth rate, per 1,000 total births - England & Wales					14.0 (14.8)

Deaths

Males	19 (31)	Females	30 (15)	Total	49 (46)
Registrar General's comparability factor	..				1.13 (1.11)
Death rate per 1,000 population - Penryn	..				10.8 (10.2)
Death rate per 1,000 population - England & Wales					11.9 (11.2)

Deaths of Infants under 1 year

Males	0 (1)	Females	0 (0)	Total	0 (1)
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births - Penryn					0.0 (13.0)
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births - England					18.0 (18.3)
					& Wales

Causes of death in infants under 1 year:-

NONE

Deaths in infants under 1 week of age

Males	0 (0)	Females	0 (0)	Total	0 (0)
Perinatal Mortality Rate = Number of stillbirths plus deaths in the first week per 1,000 live and stillbirths - Penryn -					11.7 (0.0)
Perinatal mortality rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths.-					England and Wales 25.0 (25.4.)

STATISTICS SINCE 1950

<u>Year</u>	<u>Birth Rate</u>	<u>Death Rate</u>	<u>Infant Mortality Rate</u>
1950	19.1	11.6	Nil
1951	17.5	11.2	41.7
1952	19.5	10.1	24.7
1953	17.0	13.2	27.8
1954	19.9	11.4	56.1
1955	21.4	12.0	40.8
1956	16.9	12.7	25.6
1957	16.9	13.2	26.0
1958	15.8	12.9	41.7
1959	15.1	15.0	NIL
1960	14.0	11.	31.1
1961	14.3	12.9	41.7
1962	19.1	13.2	10.2
1963	17.8	17.2	35.7
1964	18.2	10.1	29.8
1965	18.2	14.4	56.8
1966	17.5	10.9	23.5
1967	15.7	10.2	13.0
1968	16.8	10.8	NIL

VITAL STATISTICS

	<u>MALE</u>			<u>FEMALE</u>		
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Legit.</u>	<u>Illegit.</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Legit.</u>	<u>Illegit.</u>
Live Births	39	30	1	45	40	5
Stillbirths	1	1	0	0	0	0

Death of Infants:-

Under 1 year of age	0	0	0	0	0
Under 4 weeks of age	0	0	0	0	0
Under 1 week of age	0	0	0	0	0

	Sex	Total all ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks & under 1 year	AGE IN YEARS									
					1-5-	5-15-	15-25-	25-35-	35-45-	45-55-	55-65-	65-75	75 & over	
B19(1) Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
B19(2) Malignant Neoplasm - Lung, Bronchus	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	
B19(3) Malignant Neoplasm - Breast	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	
B19(6) Other Malignant Neoplasms, etc.	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	
B27 Hypertensive Disease	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	
B28 Ischaemic Heart Disease	M	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	1	
	F	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	
B29 Other Forms of Heart Disease	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
B30 Cerebrovascular Disease	M	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	4	
	F	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	5	
B46(5) Other Diseases of Circulatory System	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
B32 Pneumonia	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	
B33(1) Bronchitis and Emphysema	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
B46(6) Other Diseases of Respiratory System	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
B36 Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
B38 Nephritis and Nephrosis	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
BE48 All other accidents	M	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	
	F	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	5	21	
TOTAL ALL CAUSES														

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

1. Provision for Mothers and Young Children (Sec. 22)

Child Welfare Clinics - Penryn.

The total number of attendances in the child welfare clinic was 1,839 of which 1,052 were under 1 year of age. There were 52 sessions in the year thus the average attendances per session were 35, an increase of 5 per session compared with last year.

Dental

Dental treatment for expectant mothers and pre-school children for the Borough was given at the Falmouth Dental Clinic during the year.

Ante-Natal Clinics

These clinics are not held at a specified site, but are undertaken by domiciliary midwives on district duty and by the Family Doctors in the Borough.

Mothercraft and Relaxation Clinics

These classes are now amalgamated with Falmouth and are held weekly at the Falmouth Infant Welfare Clinic in Killigrew Road, Falmouth.

Family Planning Clinics are held at the Falmouth Welfare Clinics at weekly intervals and are attended by cases from Penryn.

Midwifery Services (Sec 23.)

Thirty-eight home deliveries were undertaken by midwives within the Borough for 1968 and this shows a decrease of 6 cases compared with 1967. Medical aid was called for in 17 cases.

Health Visitors (Sec. 24)

Domiciliary visits by Health Visitors to the elderly numbered 650. Due to the general shortage of long stay beds for the chronic sick and elderly, domiciliary care of the elderly becomes a question of vital importance. Such domiciliary services as Home Helps and Home Aids, Mobile Meals Services and Chiropody, all help to keep this age group mobile and more able to look after themselves at home.

Two thousand, seven hundred and forty one visits were made to the under 5 years old group.

Health Education talks and Demonstrations were given on 43 occasions by Health Visitors.

Home Nursing (Sec.25)

General nursing visits amounted to 2,203 compared with 1,842 last year and this included 84 new general nursing cases.

Vaccination and Immunisation (Sec. 26)

Since January, 1968, the routine method of immunisation has changed and also the method of recording as the necessary information for the computer in County Hall called for a different system as compared with previous years.

As from 1968 the figures for Immunisation are fed back to each Health Area from information fed into the computer from County Clinics and from Family Doctor Surgeries; thus the figures quoted below cannot be compared for each sanitary district as in previous years, but will be reflected for the Health Area as a whole, i.e. City of Truro, Boroughs of Falmouth and Penryn and the Truro Rural District. The figures quoted are for County Council Clinics in the whole of Health Area III only.

1968 - Primary Courses Completed.

Triple	..	230
Dip./Tetanus	..	25
Tetanus	..	34
Oral Polio	..	285
Measles	..	619

Booster Doses Given

Triple	..	93
Dip./Tetanus	..	172
Tetanus	..	36
Polio	..	565

Smallpox

Primary cases	..	40
Revaccinated cases		4

Ambulance Service (Sec.27)

This service is under direct County Control through the Ambulance Headquarters and thus no report on the day to day administration is given.

Prevention- Care and After-Care - Tuberculosis (Sec. 28)

The number of notifications of this disease in Penryn was two for the year - both these cases were females (pulmonary) aged 25 and 34 years. No non-pulmonary cases were notified.

The Mobile X-Ray team attends Falmouth Welfare Clinic twice monthly for referred cases from Doctors and for carrying out further tests on students and children found to have a positive reaction to the Heaf Skin Test, and for the general public.

B.C.G. protection against tuberculosis was given to 774 children within the Health Area, and to a further 47 contacts of known tuberculosis cases who were susceptible to this infection.

As regards long term immigrants who enter this Health Area, all are

Visited by a Health Visitor soon after arrival, and after registering with a Family Doctor are persuaded to have their chest X-rayed, as a precaution against tuberculosis. As immigrants often come from countries where the incidence to tuberculosis is much higher than here, this safeguard of the immigrant seeking work in this country is essential if the incidence of tuberculosis in this country is to be further reduced.

Two Health Visitors spend much of their time in the Prevention, Care and After-Care Service associated with Tuberculosis, and the regular follow-up of cases to ensure the maintenance of a sputum negative state under continuous chemotherapy on a domiciliary basis is of vital importance. Forty-six immigrants from no less than ten different countries entered this Health Area in 1968.

Prevention and After-Care as applied to Geriatric Cases

No persons were found to be in need of care and attention in 1968 and thus no action was taken under the National Assistance Act, 1948.

Home Help (Section 29)

Sixty cases in Penryn obtained the use of the Domestic Help Service during the year compared with 55 cases in 1967. Because of the great demand for this Service it is hoped that recruitment of Domestic Helps and Home Aids will result in more cases being able to be given adequate care at home in the future.

Cervical Cytology

Cervical smear clinics were held at the Infant Welfare Centres in Truro and Falmouth during 1968. Out of the total of 819 cases seen at these clinics during 1968, cancer was detected in one case; this woman was not a resident of the Borough of Penryn.

BOROUGH OF PENRYN.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING
31st DECEMBER, 1968.

Mr. Mayor, Alderman and Councillors,

I beg to submit my annual report for 1968.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J.W. ARMSTRONG.

Public Health Inspector.

HOUSING

There are some 1622 habitable dwellings in the Borough.
During the year 4 old persons dwellings were completed
19 properties were completed by private enterprise.

HOUSING ACT 1957-

4 undertakings were accepted (section 16) work on two of the properties were completed. 12 houses were demolished in Bohill. 8 houses were satisfactorily repaired and closing orders rescinded.

The Regional Housing Condition Survey included 522 pre -1919 houses it was considered that 203 were capable of improvement to 12 point standard, 246 standard improvement level with 72 probably proving unsuitable.

HOUSING ACT 1961 - HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION:

Various improvements have been carried out to one of the properties in multiple occupation.

HOUSING ACT 1936-57/PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1936.

As a result of informal action repairs have been carried out to 24 houses,

RECONDITIONING OF HOUSES

12 properties were improved by 7 standard and 5 discretionary grants, average grant per property - standard £132. Discretionary £282.

REHOUSING

Our waiting list for house accommodation has considerably increased to 239 at the end of the year.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

REFUSE COLLECTION:

The amount of refuse collected was a similar quantity as last year 1075 loads using a 16 cubic yard vehicle. A weekly collection is made from every dwelling house, and where requested reasonable trade refuse collected. Our Bissom dump has been made available Mondays and Wednesday . afternoons to receive innocuous trade and bulky refuse. The kerbside collection is still the method used.

Refuse has been deposited at Falmouth Borough Council's dump at Trescobeas. This dump adjoins the Council's new Lambs Lane Housing Estate, an alternative site and/or method of disposal has received considerable attention, which included a visit to the Ministry with officers of adjoining authorities, at this date no definite proposals have been agreed.

STREET SCAVENGING:

With recent increased lengths of estate roads to maintain the 3 sweepers with hand trucks have not been able to maintain such a satisfactory service.

Litter is still a major problem the 10 litter bins in various parts of the town are used by a few members of the public.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES:

There are 5 ladies and gents conveniences cleaned daily.

Damage and misuse is still a big problem.

VERMIN INFESTATION

RODENTS:

There were some 97 complaints for rats 162 dead rats were collected which suggested an estimated kill of 363. 11 business premises were treated, also the sewers where infestation was again found in the St. Thomas Street area.

All business premises and farms have been inspected

The water courses and Bissom Dump were regularly attended to.

460 visits of inspection were made to various properties.

The part-time rodent operator carries out all treatment strictly in accordance with the Ministry's recommendations. No charges are made for treatment carried out at dwelling houses.

INSECT PESTS

2 flea infestations were treated

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

36 inspections of drainage systems were made.

The sewer pump in the Packsaddle area was completed and is working satisfactorily.

Flush cisterns were supplied to 1 hand flushed closet.

46 properties have cesspools or septic tanks which are emptied as necessary.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MILK

All milk sold in the Borough is treated, regular samples are taken by the County Council sampling officers. The Penryn Borough Council being responsible for registration of distributors only. There were 2 new registrations during the year. 11 premises are now registered for the retail sale of milk

ICE CREAM

18 premises are registered, 5 samples were forwarded for examination, 2 were certified as Grade I, one each Grade II, III and IV

CLOTTED CREAM

12 samples of clotted cream were taken and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination.

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATION 1960

31 premises are registered under this act.

SURRENDERED FOODS

11 certificates were issued for the voluntary surrender of various foodstuffs.

FOOD & FOOD PREMISES

The total number of food premises in the Borough, including hotels number 62.

WATER SUPPLY

During the year the South Cornwall Water Board was formed and the water supply has been adequate during the year.

There are 13 private supplies serving 18 properties otherwise all houses are on the mains.

The amended route of the new watermain to the Packsaddle development unfortunately does not allow houses with a doubtful watersupply to be connected

DISEASE OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER 1957

There are 2 licenced plants in the Borough.

CIVIC AMENITIES ACT 1967

Attention was given to 12 unlicenced cars on various car parks in each case they were removed by the owners

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

All premises within the district have registered under the above order which includes 10 offices, 44 retail shops, 8 catering establishments 1 fuel store depot, 1 wholesale depot, also 20 self employed and 3 clubs.

FACTORIES ACT 1961.

INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH

Premises	No.on Register.	No.of Inspect.	Written Notices.	Prosecuted.
1. Factories in which Section 1 2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by the L.A.	-	-	-	-
2. Factories not included in 1 in which Section 7 is enforced by the L.A.	44	18	4	-
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the L.A. (excluding out-workers premises)	3	3	-	-
TOTAL	47	21	4	-

<u>Particulars</u> 1	<u>No. of cases in which defects were found</u>				Number of cases in which prose- cutions were insituted
	Found.	Remidied.	to H.M. Referred	Inspect. by H.M. Inspect	
	2	3	4	5	6
Want of cleanliness	1	1	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Inefective drainage of floors-	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences	-	-	-	-	-
(a) Insufficent	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	3	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-workers	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	4	4	-	-	-

<u>OUTWORKER</u>		<u>Section 133</u>			<u>Section 134</u>	
Nature of Work	No. of Outworkers in August list required by Section 133(1)	No. of cases of default in sending list to the Council	No. of Prose- cution for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in un-wholesome premises	Notices served	Prose- cution
	(c)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(7)
	(c)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(7)
Wearing apparel Making etc.	1	-	-	-	-	-

